

CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

25. (Previously presented) A drug-loaded particle formulation method comprising:

adding polymeric particles containing a therapeutic substance to a fluid

form of an implantable medical device coating material; and

solidifying the coating material to a film layer wherein the film layer includes the polymeric particles containing the therapeutic substance.

26. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, additionally comprising prior to solidification of the coating material, applying the fluid form of the coating material having the polymeric particles added thereto to the implantable medical device.

27. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the implantable medical device is a stent.

28. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the coating material includes a polymeric material.

29. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the coating material includes a polymeric material dissolved in a solvent, wherein the solidification of the coating material comprises allowing the solvent to evaporate.

30. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the polymeric particles are made by water-in-oil emulsion method.

31. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the polymeric particles have a hydrogel consistency.

32. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the therapeutic substance is for the treatment of restenosis.

33. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the therapeutic substance is a radioactive isotope.